

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
December 20, 2006**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Western District of Kentucky**

**Contact: Sandy Focken
(502) 582-5911**

OWENSBORO METH DEALER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

***– 6-time convicted felon
– Kept a 9 mm pistol in his meth lab***

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on December 19, 2006 **BRENT FELIX BLOOMER**, age 52, of 6735 Ten Oaks Lane, Philpot, Kentucky, **was sentenced** in United States District Court, Owensboro, Kentucky, on drug and gun charges.

Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Bloomer** to life in prison plus 8 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.** **Bloomer** had 31 previous convictions going back to 1971 including six previous felony convictions. He had two drug felony convictions, a burglary, and a 1995 conviction for conspiracy to murder a witness in a federal drug trial against **Bloomer's** brother.

Bloomer had been found guilty after a three-day jury trial for conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, attempting to manufacture methamphetamine; possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute; possession of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine; possession of chemicals and equipment with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine; and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug crime.

- MORE -

On July 12, 2005, when the Kentucky State Police and the Daviess County Sheriff's deputies executed a search warrant, all of the equipment, chemicals, and materials necessary to manufacture more than 50 grams of methamphetamine had been found locked in the barn at 6735 Ten Oaks Lane in Philpot, Kentucky, where **Bloomer** lived. There was also a small amount of methamphetamine in the residence at that time. Also found were a 12-gauge shotgun and 9mm pistol. The 9mm pistol was in the barn with the methamphetamine ingredients and equipment. The barn was protected by surveillance cameras which could be monitored from both the barn and the residence.

The jury found that **Bloomer** attempted to produce more than 50 grams of methamphetamine, **Bloomer's** sentence was enhanced due to his prior drug felony and violent crime convictions. Fifty grams of methamphetamine has a street value of approximately \$5,000.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert J. Kilmartin and John E. Kuhn, Jr. and was investigated by the Audubon Area Gun Crimes Task Force comprised of Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Kentucky State Police and Daviess County Sheriff's Office.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

- END -

DLH:RJK:ab:061115